


REMARKS

Claims 9 and 15 have been amended to clarify that the composition that is applied to the skin of domesticated farm animals comprises a chlorhexidine-containing material. The principle composition claims, which have been cancelled as a result of the restriction requirement, specified that the composition comprised a chlorhexidine-containing material, and now the process claims that remain in this application have been brought into compliance with those original composition claims with respect to the recitation of a chlorhexidine-containing material. Claims 10 and 11, which depend from Claim 9, and Claims 16 and 17, which depend from Claim 15, now recite that the chlorhexidine-containing material is chlorhexidine acetate.

All of the remaining claims, including independent, generic Claim 15 and Claims 16 and 17 depending therefrom, read on a process in which the composition that is applied to the skin of a domesticated farm animal contains an inorganic zinc-containing material. Generic Claim 15 and dependent Claims 16 and 17 require only the presence of the chlorhexidine-containing material, but would read on a process in which the composition applied to the skin of the domesticated farm animals includes an inorganic zinc-containing material in addition to the chlorhexidine-containing material. Claims 9, 10 and 11 have been specifically amended so as to recite only inorganic zinc-containing compounds. It is specifically noted, however, that if the generic Claims 15, 16 and 17 are found to be allowable, applicant retains the right to reintroduce the organic zinc-containing compounds that were previously included in Claim 9.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry M. Crellin